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THE
CHARTERS
OF THE
CORPORATION
OF THE
AMICABLE SOCIETY,
FOR A
PERPETUAL ASSURANCE-OFFICE.
TOGETHER WITH THE
BY-LAWS thereunto belonging.



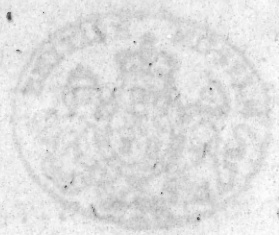
LONDON:

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THE

OF THE

AMERICAN



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THE

THE ORIGINAL
C H A R T E R
OF THE
C O R P O R A T I O N
OF THE
AMICABLE SOCIETY, &c.

ANNE, by the Grace of GOD, Queen of England, Scotland, France, and Ireland, Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom these Presents shall come greeting. Whereas *Hum-* Recital, *berston Baron, John Hartley, William Spencely, Richard Musgrave,* and Others, have by their humble Petition represented unto us, That they have agreed upon, and entred into a voluntary Society for the mutual Benefit and Interest of every Person that shall at any Time be a Member thereof, in order to provide for the Wives, Children, and other Relations, after a more easy, certain and advantageous Method than any that hath hitherto been thought of; by an amicable Contribution, according to certain Articles or Agreements entred into by the said Petitioners, for the Purposes aforesaid. And it has been humbly certified unto Us, That their Design will be of singular Use and Relief to many Families, by providing for great Numbers of Widows and Orphans, who might pro-

bably be otherwise left wholly destitute of a Maintenance by the sudden Death of those on whom they depend.

II. And the said Petitioners have therefore humbly prayed Us to incorporate them, and all others that are or shall be concerned in the Society of *Perpetual Assurance-Office*, that they may be enabled to purchase Lands to be settled as a Security for Payment of the Claims and other Uses mentioned in the aforesaid Articles.

III. *Now know Ye*, That we being graciously pleased to gratify the said Petitioners in their said Request, and to encourage the said Undertaking ;

Persons incorpo-
rated.

IV. Of our especial Grace, certain Knowledge, and mere Motion, have granted, constituted, declared, and appointed, and by these Presents for Us, our Heirs and Successors do grant, constitute, declare, and appoint, That our trusty and well-beloved *William* Lord Bishop of *Oxon*, Sir *Thomas Aleyn*, Baronet, Sir *John Sparrow*, Sir *William Holford*, Baronet, Sir *William Read*, Knight, Dame *Mary Everard*, Dame *Ursula Boucheir*, Dame *Anne Platte*, Dame *Dorothy Bedingfield*, Dame *Anna Maria Price*, Dame *Catharine Venables*, Colonel *Horace Walpool*, Colonel *Thomas Garth*, *John Ward*, *William Branthwayt*, *Charles Higges*, *Charles Cox*, *Samuel Collins*, *John Price*, *Abraham Tilghman*, *John Twelves*, *Richard Musgrave*, *Richard Coxeter*, *Walter Hungerford*, *Peter Leneve*, *Joseph Shaw*, *Richard Bromhall*, *Matthias Fletcher*, *John Grubb*, *Lewis Monoux*, *Henry Neale*, *Charles Yallop*, *George Nodes*, *Daniel Thornbury*, *Joseph Ayloffe*, *Henry Bateman*, *Stephen Bateman*, *Charles May*, *William Livesay*, *Christopher Bedingfield*, *Gabriel Armi-*
, John Dennis, *Valentine Dawes*, *Robert Perryman*, *Ralph Cary*, *John Ellis*, *John Mercer*, *Robert Brown*, *William Walsbam*, Esquires ; *White Kennet*, *Nicholas Brady*,

Brady, William Lloyd, John Stillingfleet, Emanuel Langford, John Hicks, John Esdras Edzard, Doctors in Divinity; Thomas Ayloffe, William Clements, Thomas Lane, Richard Pagett, Doctors of Laws; John Branthwayt, William Dawes, John Ker, Robert Conny, Ralph Hicks, Richard Morton, James Drake, Launcelot Harrison, John Doby, Doctors of Physick; Robert Pierſon, Edward Cook, Edward Shaw, Frederick Alpe, John Heylin, William Spencely, Robert Saunderson, Edward Hartley, Charles Hall, John Gowland, Robert Kent, George Isaacſon, ſen. George Isaacſon, jun. Anthony Isaacſon, Robert Lord, Theophilus Bedingsfield, Anthony Wilkes, Charles Hornby, Benediēt Ithell, Nicholas Tooke, John Savage, Capt. Thomas Savery, William Terrett, Hayford Waynwright, Henry Willis, Joſeph Watts, Charles Bridges, Samuel Newton, William Rutland, Richard Tolſon, William Dockwra, John Oldmixon, Richard Owen, Frederick Milford, John Shewell, Ralph Leiceſter, Gentlemen; John Harris, John Broughton, Edward Lany, William Wotton, Richard Joſnſon, Thomas Cook, Thomas Wagſtoffe, John Jaques, Richard Coliere, Vincent Barry, Samuel Haws, Zachary Wells, Humberſton Baron, Richard Tiſdale, Samuel Clark, James Maſhborne, Julius Cæſar, Maſters of Arts; John Ward, of St. Clements Lane, Nathaniel Carpenter, William Blakeway, James Thornhall, Nathaniel Bland, Edward Weſtcomb, William Levingſton, Joſeph Moor, Benjamin Carter, Samuel Barwick, Robert Stiles, Merchants; Richard Mount, John Halſe, John Rudyard, Robert Yardly, Capt. Francis Parr, Samuel Hoole, Samuel Watkinſon, Robert Bovill, John Matthews, Robert Hartley, Jaſper Harmar, John Taylor, John Hartley, William Spurling, Luke Meriton, Thomas Hodgſon, John Nutt, Thomas Higges, Elinor Spelman, Margaret Maſſingbird, Elizabeth Willis, Elizabeth Clif-
ford,

*ford, Elizabeth Austin, Elizabeth Wilshaw, Theodosia Bed-
ingfield, Penelope Price, Elinor Hoar, Martha Flint, Isa-
bella English, Mary Rutty, and Penelope Webster.*

Not to exceed
Two Thousand.

V. And all and every other Person and Persons, who shall be admitted to be a Subscriber and Subscribers to the said *Perpetual Assurance-Office*, according to the Directions herein after contained, not exceeding Two Thousand Persons in the Whole; shall be and be called one Body Corporate and Politick in Deed and in Name, by the Name of the *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*.

Name of the
Corporation.

VI. And them by the Name of the *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, We do for Us, our Heirs and Successors, make, erect, ordain, constitute, establish, confirm and declare, by these Presents, to be one Body Corporate and Politick in Deed and in Name for ever.

To have perpe-
tual Succession,
and

VII. And do for Us, our Heirs and Successors, grant and declare, That by the same Name of the *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, they shall have perpetual Succession, and that they, and their Successors, by the Name of the *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office* from Time to Time, and at all Times hereafter, shall be able and capable in Law, to have, take, purchase, receive, hold, enjoy and retain to them and their Successors, any Manors, Lands, Tenements, Rents, Privileges, Liberties, Possessions, and Hereditaments of what Kind, Nature or Quality soever, for the sole Benefit of the said *Amicable Society*, not exceeding the yearly Value of Two Thousand Pounds above all Issues and Reprizes. And moreover to purchase and acquire any Goods and Chattels whatsoever.

May purchase
Lands not ex-
ceeding 2000l.
per Annum ;

And any Goods
and Chattels.

May grant and
convey.

VIII. And also to give, grant, alien, assign and dispose of any Manors, Lands, Tenements, Rents, Hereditaments, Goods and Chattels, and to do and execute
all

all and singular other Matters, and Things necessarily relating thereunto.

IX. And that they, and their Successors, by the Name of the *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, shall and may plead and be impleaded, sue and be sued, answer and be answered, defend and be defended, in whatsoever Courts and Places, and before any Judges, Justices and Officers of Us, our Heirs and Successors, in all and singular Actions, Pleas, Suits, Complaints, Matters and Demands of what Kind or Quality soever they shall be, in the same Manner and Form, and as fully and amply as any of our Subjects of this our Realm of *England* may or can do, sue or be sued, plead, or be impleaded, answer or be answered unto, defend and be defended.

May sue and be sued.

X. And that the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, shall and may have and use a Common Seal for the Affairs and Business of the said *Amicable Society*. And that it shall and may be lawful to and for the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, and their Successors, the same Seal from Time to Time, at their Will and Pleasure, to break, change, alter, or make new, as to them shall seem expedient.

May have a Common Seal;

alterable at Pleasure.

XI. And we do hereby ordain, declare, and direct for Us, our Heirs and Successors, That all and every Person and Persons who hereafter shall be admitted Members of the said *Amicable Society*, according to the Powers and Authorities hereby granted, shall be, and be esteemed Members of the same Corporation hereby constituted.

All Persons admitted, to be Members of the Corporation.

XII. And we do hereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors, grant, declare and appoint, that the whole Number of Persons intended by Virtue of these Presents to be incorporated as aforesaid, do not exceed at any one Time Two Thousand, but may consist of any less Number.

Number of Persons incorporated not to exceed 2000.

And But may be less.

And that every of the said before-named Persons, and all other Persons who shall be admitted into the said Society as aforesaid, shall and may pay upon his or her own Life Six Pounds Four Shillings of lawful *English* Money *per Annum*, as is herein after mentioned ; on whose Decease the Nominee or Nominees of every respective Member (or their respective Executors, Administrators, and Assigns) shall become entitled unto, and receive the Dividends herein after mentioned to be made to such Nominee or Nominees. And that every such Subscriber or Member may have Power from Time to Time, as often as he or she shall think fit, to change his or her Nominee or Nominees, upon delivering up his or her former Policy, paying for his or her new Policy Two Shillings only.

All Members to pay 6l. 4s. per Annum.

Nominees to receive Dividends on Deaths of Members.

Subscribers or Members may change their Nominees paying 2s.

First 2000 Members.

To pay 5s. each to the Register ;

and 5s. to the Joint-Stock :

Every new Member after the first 2000 to pay 10s. to the Joint-Stock :

XIII. And further also, That each and every of the said *first* Two Thousand Subscribers and Persons to be admitted into the said Society, shall, at the Time of his or her actual receiving a Policy from the Register of the said *Amicable Society*, or his Deputy, (except in Cases of transferring or changing the Policy) well and truly pay, or cause to be paid, to the Person who shall for the Time being be Register to the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, the Sum of Five Shillings of lawful *English* Money, as, and for Entrance-Money, for the sole Use and Benefit of such Register ; and also the Sum of Five Shillings of like lawful *English* Money into the Joint-Stock or Fund of the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, for the sole Use and Benefit of the same Corporation.

XIV. And that after Two Thousand Persons, with the Persons before named, shall be admitted into the said Society, every new Member that shall be admitted in the Place of such as die, shall pay Ten Shillings to the

the Joint-Stock: And shall also pay, or cause to be paid, yearly, and every Year, accounting from the respective Times of naming such respective Nominees, the Sum of Six Pounds Four Shillings of lawful *Eng-lish* Money, for the Purposes herein after mentioned; the said Four Shillings to be paid Quarterly, and the said Six Pounds, to such Person or Persons as the Directors shall appoint from Time to Time to receive the same, at and by twelve equal Payments upon every first *Thursday* in each Kalendar Month, or within ten Days then next ensuing, or by four quarterly equal Payments, at the four most usual Feasts in the Year, or otherwise, as the Directors of the said *Amicable Society* for the Time being shall think fit to appoint; at which Time and Times of Payment as aforesaid, each Member making such Payment, shall and may receive; And we do hereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors, strictly require and command the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, without other Fee or Reward to be paid for the same, to cause to be delivered to the respective Subscribers one Policy of Assurance under the Seal of the said Corporation, intitling each respective Nominee or Nominees to such Dividend or Dividends, and in such Manner and Form as is herein after mentioned.

Also to pay 6l. 4s. annually.

and at such Times as the Directors shall appoint.

Every Member to have a Policy under the Common Seal.

XV. And we do hereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors, ordain and appoint, That there shall be from henceforth for ever, twelve Persons (Members of the said *Amicable Society*) to be named, constituted, elected, and appointed in such Manner and Form as is herein after expressed, who shall be, and be called Directors of the *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*.

12 Directors,

XVI. And that there shall be also from henceforth one of the Members of the said *Amicable Society*, to be

One Register,

B

nomi-

nominated, elected and chosen, as is herein after-mentioned ; who shall be, and be called Register to the *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*.

First Directors
Names.

XVII. And for the better Execution of our Will and Pleasure in this Behalf, we have made, ordained, nominated, constituted, and appointed, and by these Presents for Us, our Heirs and Successors do make, ordain, nominate, constitute and appoint the said Sir *Thomas Aleyn, Thomas Ayloffe, William Branthwayt, John Branthwayt, John Broughton, Nathaniel Carpenter, William Clements, John Harris, Charles Higges, Richard Mount, Robert Pierfon, and John Ward*, of *St. Clement's-Lane*, afore said, to be the first and present Directors of the *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, to continue in the said Office of Directors respectively, until the Five and Twentieth Day of *March* now next coming, and from and after that Time until other fit Persons shall be duly elected and sworn into the said Office of Directors, in such Manner as is herein after-mentioned and expressed.

First 12 Directors
to be sworn be-
fore the Register.

XVIII. And our Will and Pleasure is, and we do hereby require, That all the Directors herein before-named and constituted, shall, before they be admitted to the Execution of their said several Offices or Trusts respectively, take their Oaths for the due and faithful Performance of their several Offices and Trusts, before the said *John Hartley*, Stationer, (hereafter in these Presents appointed to be the first and present Register of the said Society) to whom we do hereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors, give full Power and Authority to give and administer the said Oaths accordingly.

XIX. And we have also named, ordained, constituted and appointed, and by these Presents for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do name, ordain, constitute and appoint

appoint the said *John Hartley*, Stationer, to be the first and present Register of the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, to hold, execute and enjoy the said Office by him or his sufficient Deputy or Deputies, for whom he shall be answerable to the Directors for the Time being of the said Society, during the Term of his natural Life; and in Case the said *John Hartley* shall die before the Expiration of the Term of Fourteen Years, to commence and be computed from the Day of the Date of these Presents; Then our Will and Pleasure is, and we do hereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors, grant and ordain, That the Executors, Administrators, or Assigns of the said *John Hartley*, and his, her, or their Deputy or Deputies, for whom he, she, or they shall also be answerable, and who shall be approved by the Directors for the Time being of the said Society, shall hold, exercise and enjoy the said Office of Register to the *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, for and during the Remainder of the said Term of Fourteen Years, which shall be then to come and unexpired.

John Hartley
first Register for
Life.

In Case of his
Death before the
Expiration of 14
Years, the Office
to be executed
by his Executors,
&c. for the Re-
mainder of such
14 Years.

XX. And further also, That it shall and may be lawful to and for the said *John Hartley*, during his Life, and also for his Executors, Administrators and Assigns, in case he shall die at any Time before the Expiration of the said Term of Fourteen Years, as aforesaid, during so many Years of the said Term as shall be then to come, and unexpired; to demand and receive of, and from the said *Amicable Society*, a Salary payable Quarterly, at the Four most usual Feasts or Terms in the Year, of Two Hundred Pounds *per Ann.* if only One Thousand Persons, and Three Hundred Pounds *per Ann.* if Two Thousand Persons become Members of the said Society, besides the Five Shil-

His Salary 200l.
per Ann. if 1000
Members; and
300l. if 2000
Members.

lings Entrance-Money of the first Two Thousand Members.

John Hartley,

XXI. And we do hereby, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, will and require as well the said *John Hartley*, as every other Person who shall be constituted by him, his Executors, Administrators or Assigns, as aforesaid, to execute the said Office or Place of Register, before he be admitted to the Execution of that Office;

and every other Register to be sworn by three of the Directors for the faithful Performance of the Office,

and also every Register to the said *Amicable Society*, hereafter to be chosen, to take his corporal Oath before the Directors of the said *Amicable Society*, or before any three or more of them, now and for the Time being, for the due and faithful Execution and Performance of the said Office of Register; to which Directors, or any three of them, now and for the Time being, we do hereby, for Us, our Heirs, and Successors, give full Power and Authority, to give and administer the said Oath accordingly.

XXII. And we do hereby, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, grant, ordain and appoint, that one full

Only a sixth Part of the annual Contributions to be divided amongst the Nominees the first Year.

sixth Part only of the first Six Pounds annual Contribution-Money, of all the Members of the said *Amicable Society*, and no more shall be duly paid to, and amongst all and every such Nominee and Nominees of the Member and Members of the said *Amicable Society*, their respective Executors, Administrators, or Assigns, who respectively shall die in the first Year, to be computed from the Five and Twentieth Day of *March* now last past, in equal Shares and Proportions; and that Four Thousand Pounds of lawful *English* Money shall be duly paid, and equally divided to, and amongst all and every such Nominee or Nominees of the Member and Members of the said *Amicable Society*, their respective Executors, Administrators or Assigns, who respectively

4000l. the second Year.

ly

ly shall die in the second Year, viz. the Year of our Lord Christ, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seven: And that Six Thousand Pounds of lawful *English* Money shall be duly paid, and equally divided to and amongst all and every such Nominee or Nominees of the Member and Members of the said *Amicable Society*, their respective Executors, Administrators or Assigns, who respectively shall die in the Third Year, viz. in the Year of our Lord Christ, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Eight: And that Eight Thousand Pounds of lawful *English* Money, shall be duly paid and equally divided to, and amongst all and every such Nominee or Nominees of the Member and Members of the said *Amicable Society*, their respective Executors, Administrators or Assigns, who respectively shall die in the Fourth Year, viz. in the Year of our Lord Christ, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Nine: And that Ten Thousand Pounds of lawful *English* Money, shall be duly paid and equally divided to, and amongst all and every such Nominee or Nominees of the Member and Members of the said *Amicable Society*, their respective Executors, Administrators or Assigns, who respectively shall die in the Fifth Year, viz. in the Year of our Lord Christ, One Thousand Seven Hundred and Ten: And that Ten Thousand Pounds of lawful *English* Money, and so much more as shall be agreed on by a Majority of the Members of the said *Amicable Society*, for the Time being, assembled in a General Court, shall be annually paid, and equally divided to, and amongst such Nominee or Nominees of the Member and Members of the said *Amicable Society*, their respective Executors, Administrators or Assigns, who shall die in every Year then next ensuing.

6000l. the third Year.

8000l. the Fourth Year,

10,000l. the fifth Year.

And ever after 10,000l. and as much more as shall be agreed by a General Court of Members annually held.

XXIII. But in case there shall not be Two Thousand Subscribers, then in each Year such Part of the said annual Payments of Six Pounds to be paid by the Subscribers, shall be distributed in Manner aforesaid, as shall be a just Proportion to the said respective Sums hereby appointed to be distributed, in case there shall be Two Thousand Subscribers.

If not full 2000 Members,

a proportionable Division to be made.

The Remainder of the Contributions, together with the Interest and what shall be received for Annuities to be laid up for the Benefit of the Members.

XXIV. And further also, That the Remainders of the Monies which shall be so contributed. and paid as aforesaid, shall, together with such Interest, Increase or Improvements, as shall arise, accrue, or be made thereof, or thereby, or shall arise, or be received for Annuities to be granted by the said *Amicable Society*, to their own Members only, be reserved and improved by the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, for the sole Use and Benefit of all and every the Members of the same Corporation, according to their respective Interests therein.

XXV. And we do hereby, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, grant unto the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, and their Successors, that it shall and may be lawful, to and for the Directors of the said *Amicable Society*, for the Time being, or any Seven or more of them, to assemble and meet together in some convenient Place within the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, or the Suburbs thereof, when, and as often as they shall think fit, and then and there hold Courts; and that every such Court or Meeting or Assembly of Directors, of the said *Amicable Society* aforesaid, shall be and be called a Court of Directors of the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*.

Seven or more Directors may hold Courts.

Every such Court to be called a Court of Directors.

XXVI. And that it shall and may be lawful to, and for the Directors of the said *Amicable Society*, or the major Part of them, from Time to Time assembled in Court

Court, as aforesaid, to order, manage, and direct the Affairs and Business of the said Corporation, according to the Rules and Directions herein mentioned and ordained, or according to such Rules, Orders, By-laws, and Ordinances, as shall be made, ordered, and agreed upon, by the Members of the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, or the major Part of such of them as shall be assembled in a General Court of the said Corporation.

Major Part of the Directors to manage the Affairs of the Corporation, according to the Charter and such By-Laws as shall be made at General Courts.

XXVII: And further also, that it shall and may be lawful to and for the Directors of the said *Amicable Society*, for the Time being, or the major Part of them, and all other Members of the said Corporation, or so many of them as shall think fit to be present from Time to Time, to assemble and meet together in some convenient Place within the Cities of *London* and *Westminster*, or the Suburbs thereof, and when, and as often as the Members of the said Corporation shall be assembled, in Manner as aforesaid, they shall be and be called a General Court of the *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*. And in such General Court (which our Will and Pleasure is, shall not consist of less than Twenty Members of the said Corporation) it shall and may be lawful to, and for the Members of the said *Amicable Society*, or such of them as shall be assembled in a General Court, as aforesaid, to constitute, ordain, and make such and so many reasonable By-laws, Rules, Orders and Ordinances, for the good Government of the said *Amicable Society*, and the Members and Affairs thereof, as to them, or the major Part of them, being then and there present, shall seem necessary and convenient, with reasonable Penalties, to be contained in such By-Laws on the Offenders, for Non-Performance of, or Disobedience to the said By-Laws, to the Use

Directors and the Members may meet from Time to Time in London, Westminster, or the Suburbs, and then to be called a General Court.

General Courts not consisting of less than twenty Members,

may make By-Laws;

with reasonable Penalties,

and alter them
as they shall find
Cause.

Use of the *Amicable Society for the Perpetual Assurance-Office*, without any Account to be rendered for the same to Us, our Heirs or Successors. And the said By-Laws, Rules, Orders and Ordinances, or any of them to alter, change or annul, as the said General Court shall think requisite, and to mitigate the same as they shall find Cause, so as all and singular such By-Laws, Rules, Orders and Ordinances, Fines, and Amerciaments be reasonable, and not repugnant or contrary to the Laws or Statutes of this our Realm, or to the Prejudice of any other Company or Corporation.

New Director to
be chosen annu-
ally on the 25th
of March, or
within 40 Days
after, to conti-
nue for one Year
and until others
are chosen.

XXVIII. And further, we have given and granted, and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do give and grant unto the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, and their Successors, Power and Authority, by a Majority of Votes of such Members of the said *Amicable Society*, who shall be present at a General Court of the said Corporation, to be annually held for that Purpose, to choose and elect Yearly on the Five and Twentieth Day of *March*, or within Forty Days after, Twelve Members, and no more, of the said *Amicable Society*, who at that Time shall live and inhabit within the Bills of Mortality, to be Directors of the said Corporation; which Directors so annually elected and chosen, shall severally and respectively continue in their Offices to which they shall be so elected, for and during one whole Year, and until others shall be duly chosen and sworn into their Places respectively.

Four or more of
the old Directors
to be continued.

XXIX. Provided, and our Will and Pleasure is, that at the Time of every such annual Election of Directors of the said *Amicable Society*, there shall be always Four or more of the Directors, who served in that Office the preceeding Year, if so many shall then inhabit

inhabit within the Bills of Mortality, continued in the said Office of Directors the succeeding Year, to instruct the rest of the new elected Directors in the Government and Management of the Affairs of the said *Amicable Society*.

XXX. And we do hereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors, grant and ordain, That in case any Person or Persons hereby nominated, or hereafter to be elected Director or Directors, of the said Corporation as aforesaid, shall happen to die within the Space of one Year after such Nomination or Election, or shall act contrary to his or their Trust in that Office; and that the same shall be so declared by the rest of the Directors for the said *Amicable Society*, or the major Part of them; or shall refuse or neglect duly to act in, or take upon him or them, the Execution of the said Office of Director; or shall neglect or refuse to take an Oath for the due Execution of the said Office, after being twice requested in that Behalf, by an Order from any Six or more of the Directors of the said *Amicable Society*, for the Time being; or in case of any Removal of any Director of the said *Amicable Society*, or in case of any other Vacancy of the Office of a Director, then and in all, or in any the said Cases, some other Member or Members of the said *Amicable Society*, then living and inhabiting within the Weekly Bills of Mortality, shall be elected and sworn in their respective Places by the rest of the Directors of the said *Amicable Society* for the Time being, or the major Part of them, or otherwise as the General Court of the said *Amicable Society* shall determine, to continue Directors for the Remainder of the Year, and so as often as the Case shall so happen.

It a Director dies, or shall act contrary to his Trust,

or refuse or neglect to act, or to take an Oath for the due Execution of his Office, or in case of any other Vacancy, some other Member to be elected in his Place by the Directors, or as a General Court shall determine.

XXXI. And we do hereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors, grant, ordain, and appoint, that in all Courts,

C

Meet-

Meetings of the Court of Directors, or other Courts of the said *Amicable Society*, it shall and may be lawful for the Directors of the said *Amicable Society* for the Time being, or the major Part of them when assembled, to choose and appoint from Time to Time, one of the Directors of the said *Amicable Society* then present, to be Chairman of the same Courts; which Chairman for the Time being, shall in case of Equality of Votes, have from Time to Time the casting Voice.

One Vote only
for each Mem-
ber.

XXXII. And we do hereby also further ordain, direct, and appoint, that no one Member of the said *Amicable Society* shall in any Election of the Directors of the said Corporation, have or give any more than one Vote, whatever his Share or Interest in the Joint-Stock of the said *Amicable Society*, is or shall then be.

Directors to take
an Oath for the
due Execution
of the Trust.

XXXIII. Provided always, and our Will and Pleasure is, that every Person who shall hereafter be elected and chosen into the Place or Office of a Director of the said *Amicable Society*, shall before he be admitted to the Execution of the said Office, take an Oath for the due and faithful Performance of his Trust, before any Three or more of the last preceeding Directors of the said Corporation; To whom we do hereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors, give full Power and Authority to give and administer the same Oath accordingly.

Directors may
hold Courts as
often as they
think fit,

XXXIV. And we do hereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors, grant and ordain, that it shall and may be lawful to, and for the Twelve Directors of the said *Amicable Society* for the Time being, or the major Part of them from Time to Time, as often as they shall think fit, to assemble and hold Courts, and therein to transact, treat, and consult of, and concerning all Matters and Things relating to the said *Amicable Society* and their Joint-Stock, and hear and determine all Controversies that shall, or may in any wise happen, or arise there-
upon.

upon. And further also, That the Directors of the said *Amicable Society* for the Time being, or the major Part of them, shall, or may at such Courts or Meetings admit, approve or reject, any Subscription or Subscriptions, of any Person or Persons, who shall offer to subscribe, or to pay any Sum or Sums of Money to the Joint-Stock or Fund of the said Corporation, as to the said Directors, or the major Part of them shall seem convenient, and shall and may also at their Will and Pleasure choose, put in, and remove all inferior Officers of, or belonging to the said Corporation, other than the Register hereby named.

and may admit
or reject Mem-
bers,

and choose and
remove inferior
Officers.

XXXV. And we do hereby further, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, grant and declare, that it shall and may be lawful to, and for every Member of the said *Amicable Society*, who shall be then living in the Country, or be otherwise absent, to depute from Time to Time, by Writing, under his or her Hand and Seal, some known Person, residing within the Bills of Mortality, to be his or her Attorney, to transact or perform all Matters for him or her, relating to his or her Interest in the said Society, as fully and effectually, as if he or she were actually present, except only in or concerning any Election of a Director or Directors of the said *Amicable Society*.

Matters may be
transacted by an
Attorney, ex-
cept in the Elec-
tion of a Direc-
tor or Directors.

XXXVI. And we do hereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors, strictly require and command the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, and their Successors, that they keep, or cause constantly to be kept, as Occasion shall require, one or more Register, or Entering Book or Books, wherein shall be fairly entered and written all and every the Names, Titles, Ages and Places of Abode of the several Subscribers (now and for the Time being) to the Joint-Stock or

A Register of
Entry-Book or
Books to be
kept.

To which all
Persons interest-
ed may have Re-
course without
Fee.

Fund of the said Corporation, and of the respective Nominees of such Members, and all, and singular Sum and Sums of Money, which from Time to Time shall be received and paid, and the Time when, and the Names of each Person, to whom such Sum or Sums shall be paid, To which Book or Books all and every Person and Persons, having any Title, Share, or Interest in, or to the Joint-Stock of the said *Amicable Society*, or in, or to any Dividend thereof, shall and may from Time to Time, and at all seasonable Times have Recourse and Inspection without any Fee, Gratuity or Reward, to be paid, or given for the same.

Certificates in
Case of Death.

XXXVII. And our further Will and Pleasure is, and we do hereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors, require, and command, that every Nominee or Nominees, of every Member or Members of the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, do produce, or cause from Time to Time to be produced, a regular and authentic Certificate, to the Directors of the said *Amicable Society* for the Time being, of the Death of the Member or Members of the said Corporation, whose Nominee or Nominees he or they are, or shall be respectively, certifying the Place where, and the Time when, such Member or Members died; and that thereupon the said Certificates shall be filed, and produced (by the Register of the said *Amicable Society* for the Time being, or some other Person belonging to the said Corporation) to any Member or Members of the same Corporation, if required, at the End of every Year.

XXXVIII. And of our further especial Grace, certain Knowledge, and mere Motion, we have given and granted, and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do give and grant unto the said *Amicable Society*

Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office, and their Successors, full and lawful Power and Authority to have, hold, take, purchase, receive, possess, and enjoy, (by, and out of such Money as shall or may, from Time to Time, arise by, and be reserved to the Joint-Stock or Fund of the said *Amicable Society*, over and above the annual Dividends, to be made as aforesaid, amongst the Nominees of the Members of the said *Amicable Society*, on the Deceases of such Members whose Nominees they are) any Manors, Messuages, Lands, Tenements, Rents, Services, Possessions or Hereditaments whatsoever, within our Kingdom of *England*, Dominion of *Wales*, and Town of *Berwick upon Tweed* (whether the same are, or shall be held of Us, our Heirs and Successors, or of any other Person or Persons whatsoever) for the sole Use and Benefit of the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, and their Successors, not exceeding the clear yearly Value of Two Thousand Pounds of lawful *English* Money, in all Issues above Reprizes.

The Society may purchase Lands, &c. not exceeding 2000l. per Annum.

XXXIX. And we have also given and granted, and by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do give and grant unto every Subject or Subjects whatsoever of Us, our Heirs and Successors, whether incorporated or not incorporated, special Licence, full Power, Faculty and Authority, to give, grant, sell, alien, assign, dispose or bequeath unto the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, and their Successors for the Use and Benefit of them and their Successors, any Manors, Messuages, Lands, Tenements, Rents, Services, or Hereditaments whatsoever, within our said Kingdom of *England*, Dominion of *Wales*, and Town of *Berwick upon Tweed*, so as the same do not

And any one may sell, &c. to the Society, Lands, &c. not exceeding that Value.

not exceed in the Whole the clear yearly Value of Two Thousand Pounds, in all Issues above Reprizes.

All Judges, Justices, &c. to be assisting.

XL. And we do hereby further for Us, our Heirs and Successors, Will, Authorize and Command all and singular our Judges, Justices of the Peace, Mayors, Sheriffs, Bailiffs, Constables, Headboroughs, and all other the Officers and Ministers whatsoever of Us, our Heirs and Successors for the Time being, within this our Kingdom, that they, and every of them respectively, be from Time to Time, in their several and respective Offices, favouring, aiding, and assisting unto the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, and their Successors, their Agents and Servants in all Things, according to our Royal Will and Pleasure herein declared, and the true Intent and Meaning of these Presents.

The Society empowered to raise a Joint-Stock,

and augment and diminish it from Time to Time.

XLI. And we do hereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors, give and grant unto the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, and their Successors, full Power, and Authority, to make and raise a Joint-Stock or Fund from Time to Time, for the Ends and Purposes herein mentioned, and to have and receive the Benefit and Advantage of the same, to the Use of the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, and their Successors, according to such Shares and Proportions, as they, or any of them, have, hath, or shall have in the Joint-Stock, or Fund aforesaid, and the same to augment and increase, reduce and diminish from Time to Time, as the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, or their Successors, shall find most fitting and convenient.

XLII. Provided always, and for the effectual preventing the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, hereby incorporated, from intermeddling or interfering with the Business or Affairs of the Corporation

tion of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, and from Banking and Dealing in any Trade or Merchandize: Our Will and Pleasure is, and we do hereby direct and command, That the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, shall not at any Time hereafter discount, or deal in Bills of Exchange, or Inland Bills or Notes, nor shall receive Monies, or keep the Accounts or Cash of any Person or Persons (other than their own proper Money-Accounts, and Cash, being the real Produce of their Joint-Stock, or Fund, or such Monies as shall be paid to them for the Purposes herein mentioned) nor shall deal in Banking, nor any ways use the Banking Trade or Business; nor shall upon their Common Seal, nor by their Cashiers, Officers or Servants, or any other Person on their Behalf, give, or issue out any Bills or Notes payable upon Demand for a Loan of Money, with or without Interest; nor shall advance, nor lend any Money at Interest upon any Account or Pretence whatsoever, (except the Monies arising out of, or by the real Produce of their own Joint-Stock or Fund, or to be by them received as herein before is mentioned) nor shall by Way of Trade or Merchandize, directly or indirectly, buy or sell, or deal in any Bullion, Gold or Silver, or any Goods, Wares, or Merchandizes.

Not to deal in Bills of Exchange, or keep Cash for other Persons, nor use the Banking Trade,

nor issue Bills payable upon Demand, nor lend Money except the real Produce of the Joint-Stock,

nor deal in Bullion or other Goods.

XLIII. And in case the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, do, or shall at any Time hereafter discount, or deal in Bills of Exchange, or Inland Bills or Notes, or shall receive the Monies, or keep the Accounts or Cash of any Person (other than their own proper Money-Accounts and Cash, being the real Produce of their Fund, or such Monies as shall be

In case the Society shall deal in Bills or Notes, keep the Cash of others,

be

or deal in Banking,

or issue out Bills,

or lend any Money, except the Produce of the Joint-Stock,

or deal in any Bullion, Goods, Wares, or Merchandize,

the Charter to be forfeited.

If the Society offend, to the Value of 500*l.* or upwards, in one Year, to be sued by the Attorney General, at the Request and Charges of the Bank of England,

be paid to them as aforesaid) or shall deal in Banking, or any Ways use the Banking Trade or Business, or shall either upon their Common Seal, or by their Cashiers, Officers or Servants, or any other on their Behalf, give or issue out any Bills or Notes payable on Demand for the Loan of Money, with or without Interest, or shall advance or lend any Money at Interest upon any Account or Pretence whatsoever (except the Monies arising out of, and by the real Produce of their own Joint-Stock or Fund) or shall by Way of Trade or Merchandize, directly or indirectly buy, or sell, or deal in any Bullion, Gold, Silver, or any Goods, Wares or Merchandizes whatsoever :

XLIV. That then, and in any of the said Cases, our Will and Pleasure is, and we do hereby reserve to ourselves, our Heirs and Successors, full Power and absolute Authority, by our or their Order, in our or their Privy Council, at any Time after Three Months Notice to the said Corporation, to determine this our present Charter, and the Corporation hereby made, created or erected, and from Three Months after such Order of Council, made in any of the said Cases, this our present Charter, and the Corporation hereby made, shall cease, determine, and be utterly null and void, to all Intents and Purposes whatsoever.

XLV. And in case the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, shall contrary to the Restrictions before-mentioned, offend in any Matter aforesaid, in any Particular or Particulars, exceeding the Sum or Value of Five Hundred Pounds, within the Compass of any one Year, to be reckoned from *Lady-Day* yearly ; that then the Attorney-General, of Us, our Heirs and Successors, for the Time being, shall, and is hereby authorized and directed, by Virtue of these Presents

sents, without further Warrant or Order from Us, our Heirs and Successors, at the Request, and at the Cost and Charges of the Governor and Company of the Bank of England, by *Scire Facias*, or Information, or otherwise, as the Law shall allow of, to prosecute the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office* for such Offence and Breach of any of the Restrictions aforesaid, and to procure these our Letters Patents, and the Corporation hereby created, by Judgment thereon to be determined and made void.

XLVI. And for the better and more effectual Observance of the Restrictions and Conditions aforesaid; our Will and Pleasure is, and we do hereby enjoin and require, the Directors of the said *Amicable Society for the Perpetual Assurance-Office*, from Time to Time, when and as often as they shall be elected into the said Offices and Places, and before they respectively act therein, to take an Oath before such Persons, and at such Times as the Oath of their Office shall be administered to them, for the due and careful Observance of the said Restrictions herein before-mentioned, and not wittingly or willingly to act contrary thereunto, or to break, or infringe, or assent to, or connive at the breaking or infringing of the same, or any of them.

Directors to take an Oath for the due Observance of the Restrictions in the Charter.

XLVII. Lastly, we do, by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors grant unto the said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, and their Successors, that these our Letters Patents, or the Inrolment thereof, shall be in and by all Things good, firm, valid, sufficient and effectual in the Law, according to the true Intent and Meaning hereof, and shall be taken, construed and adjudged, in the most favourable and beneficial Sense for the best Advantage of the

Patent shall be valid in Law, and construed in the most favourable Sense for the Society.

D

said

said *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office*, and their Successors, as well in all Courts of Record as elsewhere, and by all and singular the Officers and Ministers whatsoever of Us, our Heirs and Successors. In Witness whereof, we have caused these our Letters to be made Patents.

Witness Ourself at *Westminster*, the Five and Twentieth Day of *July*, in the Fifth Year of our Reign.

By Writ of PRIVY-SEAL,

C O C K S.

THE

THE SUPPLEMENTAL CHARTER.

GEORGE the Second, by the Grace of GOD,
of Great-Britain, France, and Ireland, King,
Defender of the Faith, &c. To all to whom these
Presents shall come, Greeting. *Whereas the Corpora-* Recital of former Patent,
tion called by the Name of the Amicable Society for a Per-
petual Assurance-Office, have by their Petition humbly
represented unto Us, That upon the humble Petition
of divers Persons therein named to her late Majesty
Queen *Anne*, setting forth that they had agreed upon,
and entered into a voluntary Society for the mutual Be-
nefit and Interest of every Person, that should at any
Time be a Member thereof, in order to provide for
their Wives and Children, and other Relations, after
a more easy, certain, and advantageous Method,
than any that had been thought of, and upon its being
certified to her said Majesty, that the said Design would
be of singular Use and Relief to many Families, by
providing for great Numbers of Widows and Orphans,
who might probably be otherwise left wholly destitute
of a Maintenance; her said Majesty was graciously
pleased, by her Letters Patent, bearing Date at *West-*
minster, the Twenty-fifth Day of *July*, in the Fifth
Year of her Reign, to incorporate and establish the
Persons therein named, and all and every other Person
and Persons, who should be admitted to be a Subscri-

ber or Subscribers, to the said *Perpetual Assurance-Office*, according to the Directions therein contained, not exceeding Two Thousand Persons in the Whole, to be, and be called one Body Corporate and Politick, in Deed and in Name, for ever; and to have perpetual Succession by the Name of the *Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance Office*, together with several Powers, Privileges, Liberties and Authorities in and by the said Letters Patent granted, and particularly specified, as by the same may more fully and at large appear; That the said Corporation have ever since been a subsisting Body, and to the best of their Endeavours acted under, and in Pursuance of the said Letters Patent; and have made Improvements, and been found to be a common Good and Benefit, according to the original Design and Institution of the said Society. But that the said Corporation have at several Times, and on sundry Occasions, found themselves reduced to great Inconveniences and Difficulties, for Want of some further Powers and Authorities, than are contained in the said Letters Patent, or which, by the By-Laws thereby authorized to be made, they are impowered to use and exercise; and which if granted them, they humbly conceive and are advised, would much tend to the Good and Benefit, as well as Relief and Harmony of the said Society: That for Want of such further Powers and Authorities, Encouragement hath been given to some to decline any regular Payments of their Contribution-Monies, and to dispute the Power of an absolute Exclusion, for the Defaults of being five Quarters in Arrear thereof; and others to claim a Right of voting and balloting at Elections, and other Occasions, relating to the said Corporation, who had no real Property or Interest themselves in, or to such Policies, by which they pretended

Further Powers
wanted.

tended to be Members of, or Contributors to the said Corporation, and otherwise irregularly to interfere in, and disconcert the Affairs thereof; and having humbly prayed Us, that we would be graciously pleased to grant unto the said Corporation, such further Powers and Authorities, and in such Manner, as to Us shall seem meet: We taking the Premises into our Royal Consideration, are graciously pleased to grant unto the said Corporation and their Successors, such additional Powers and Authorities, as are herein after-mentioned and contained.

I. Know ye, therefore, that We of our especial Grace, certain Knowledge, and mere Motion, have granted, declared, ordained, and directed, and by these Presents for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do

grant, declare, ordain, and direct, that no Member of the said Corporation shall have any right to vote or act in any General Court of the said Corporation, ex-

No Member to vote, except real Contributors, on his or her own Life.

cept only such as are real Contributors thereto, upon his or her own Life; and that the Directors for the said Corporation for the Time being, or any Two or more of them, shall have Power at any of the General

Courts to administer an Oath, to any Person or Persons appearing there as a Member or Members thereof, and pretending or insisting to have a Right to vote or ballot

Directors may administer an Oath to any Person insisting on a Right to vote.

at any Election for Directors, or in relation to making of By-Laws, for the better ordering or Government of the said Corporation, or any other Question or Matter which shall concern the said Corporation; which Oath shall be to the following Effect, viz. *That such Person*

The Tenor of the Oath,

or Persons, is, or are lawfully possessed of a Policy in the said Corporation, on his, her, or their Life or Lives, and is or are a Contributor or Contributors thereto, in his, her, and their own Right, and not otherwise: And in Case of

Refusal

Persons refusing
to take the Oath,

to be excluded
from voting.

Directors may
administer Oaths
relating to the
Health of pro-
posed Members,
and to the Deaths
of Members,

or relating to
lost Policies,

and may exa-
mine on Oath,
the Persons ap-
pointed to audit
the Accounts,

Monies of the
Corporation, not
to be lent, but on
Land or Govern-
ment Security,
except Monies
lent on Claims,

Refusal or Neglect, to take such Oath or Oaths, by any such Person or Persons upon Tender thereof to be made to him, her, or them, by any Two or more of the said Directors as aforesaid; such Person and Persons so refusing or neglecting, shall be excluded from balloting, voting, or acting at such General Court, as a Member of the said Corporation.

II. And of our more especial Grace, certain Knowledge, and mere Motion, We have granted, declared, ordained, and directed, and by these Presents for Us, our Heirs and Successors, do grant, declare, ordain, and direct, that it shall and may be lawful, to and for the Directors of the said Corporation, for the Time being, or any Two or more of them, to administer Oaths to any such Person or Persons, as will voluntarily take the same, for, or concerning the State of Health of any Person or Persons that shall be proposed to be admitted into the said Society, and of, and relating to the Deaths of any Members or Nominees therein, or in relation to any Policy or Policies in the said Society, which shall be lost or pretended to be lost; and for which Application shall be made, in order to have new Policies made out in Exchange for the same; and also to examine upon Oath, such Persons as shall be appointed from Time to Time, to audit the Accounts of the said Corporation, if such Persons will voluntarily take such Oath.

III. And of our further especial Grace, certain Knowledge, and mere Motion, We have likewise granted, declared, ordained and directed, and do hereby for Us, our Heirs and Successors, grant, declare, ordain, and direct, that no Monies of, or belonging to the said Corporation, shall at any Time hereafter be lent, or placed out upon any other Security than Land or Government

vernment Security, except the Monies usually advanced, or lent upon Claims before such Time as the same shall respectively become payable; and that all Claims to be made out of the Monies appointed to be annually divided by the said recited Charter or Letters Patent, shall from Time to Time be paid as of the current Year wherein such Claims shall be made appear to be due, and be allowed of by the Directors, out of the Monies to be divided for that Year, and not otherwise.

Claims to be paid as of the Year wherein they shall be allowed.

IV. And whereas, by the said Charter, the Members of the said Corporation, are obliged to pay certain annual Sums therein mentioned, by quarterly Payments; and in Regard, it is impossible, that the yearly Dividends to Claimants can be made, or the said Corporation subsist, if the Members or Contributors thereof are suffered to let their Contribution-Money run in Arrear, without being subject to a Forfeiture or Exclusion, for such their Defaults: We have therefore, further granted, declared, ordained, and directed, and do, by these Presents, for Us, our Heirs and Successors, grant, declare, ordain, and direct, that all Members and their Nominees, who shall be in Arrear, in his or their quarterly Payments or Contributions, for the Time or Space of one Year and one Quarter of a Year, and their respective Executors, Administrators and Assigns, shall be absolutely excluded from all Benefit or Advantage from, or by Virtue of any such Policy or Policies, in the said Society; provided always, that no such Forfeiture shall be incurred, unless publick Notice shall first have been given in the *London Gazette*, of the Sum so in Arrear, and that if the same shall not be paid within the Space of Three Calendar Months after the Publication of such *Gazette*, such

Members, their Nominees, Executors, &c. five Quarters in Arrear to be excluded,

on three Months Notice in the *London Gazette*

Forfeiture will be incurred, nor unless Defaults shall be made in the Payment thereof, before the End of the said Three Months.

The Patent to be
valid in Law,
notwithstanding
Defects.

V. And Lastly, We do hereby, for Us, our Heirs, and Successors, grant unto the said Corporation, and their Successors; That these our Letters Patents, or the Enrolment, or Exemplification thereof, shall be in, and by all Things good, firm, valid, sufficient, and effectual in the Law, according to the true Intent and Meaning thereof, notwithstanding the not fully, or duly reciting the said recited Letters Patent, or the Date thereof, or any other Omission, Imperfection, Defect, Matter, Cause, or Thing whatsoever, to the contrary thereof, in any wise notwithstanding. In Witness whereof, we have caused these our Letters to be made Patents.

Witness Ourselves at *Westminster*, the Sixteenth Day of *January*, in the Third Year of our Reign.

By Writ of PRIVY-SEAL,

COCKS.

AN
ABSTRACT
OF THE
CHARTERS
OF THE
CORPORATION
OF THE
AMICABLE SOCIETY,
FOR A
PERPETUAL ASSURANCE-OFFICE.

E

ARTICLE

OF THE

CHARTERS

OF THE

CORPORATION



AMICABLE SOCIETY

FOR

THE MUTUAL ASSURANCE OFFICE

AN
 A B S T R A C T
 OF THE
 ORIGINAL CHARTER
 OF THE
 CORPORATION
 OF THE
 AMICABLE SOCIETY
 FOR A
 PERPETUAL ASSURANCE-OFFICE,

Dated 25 July 5^o Annæ Reginae, An. Dom. 1706.

THE CHARTER, reciting the Petition Name of the Corporation.
 of *Humberston Baron, John Hartley, and*
 Others, incorporates *William* the then Lord
 Bishop of *Oxon*, *Sir Thomas Aleyn*, Baronet, and O-
 thers, by the *Name of the Amicable Society for a Perpe-*
tual Assurance-Office.

7. With Power to purchase any Manors, Lands, Te- Power to pur-
 nements, Hereditaments, &c. not exceeding 2,000*l.* chase Lands.
per Annum.

And to purchase any Goods and Chattels. Goods and Chat-
tels.

8. And to aliene such Goods, Lands, &c.
- Sue and be sued. 9. And to sue and be sued.
- To have a Seal. 10. And to have a Common Seal alterable at Plea-
sure.
- Members of the Corporation, 11. All Persons hereafter to be admitted Members
of the said Society, to be esteemed Members of the
Corporation.
- not to exceed 2,000. 12. The Number of Persons to be incorporated not
to exceed 2,000, but may be less.
- Member to pay 6l. 4s. per Ann. Each Member to pay [*during and*] upon his or her
Nominees to receive Dividends. Life 6l. 4s. *per Annum*, and on his or her Decease, his
or her Nominee or Nominees will be intituled to a Divi-
dend, as hereafter mentioned.
- Nominees may be changed. Each Member (as often as he or she pleases) em-
powered to change his Nominee or Nominees upon de-
livering up his or her former Policy, and paying for a
new one.
- First 2000 Mem- bers to pay each 10s. to the Register 5s. 13. Each and every of the first Two Thousand
and to the Joint- Stock 5s. Members, on Admittance into the Society, to pay to
the Register for Entrance-Money 5s. for his own Use,
and 5s. to the Joint-Stock of the Company, except in
Cases of transferring or changing the Policy.
- Succeeding Members to pay each 10s. to Joint-Stock. 14. After Two Thousand Persons are admitted into
the Society, every new Member that shall be admitted
into the Place of such as die, to pay 10s. to the Joint-
Stock, and 6l. 4s. *per Annum*, which Payments are to
be made Monthly, Quarterly, or otherwise, as the
Directors shall appoint.
- Payments to be made Monthly, Quarterly, or otherwise.
- Every Member to have a Policy. Each Member at the Time of his or her first Pay-
ment, to receive a Policy under the Corporation Seal,
entitling his or her Nominee or Nominees to a Dividend
[*on the Decease of such Member.*]
- Twelve Direc- tors. 15. Twelve Persons to be called Directors, to be
chosen out of the Members of the said Society.
16. One

16. One of the Members to be chosen Register. One Register.
17. Sir *Thomas Aleyn*, Bart. and eleven others named First Directors.
in the Charter to be the first Directors, to continue till
the 25th of *March*, 1707, and until others are elected
and sworn.
18. The first Directors to be sworn by the Register, to be sworn by
Register.
for the due Execution of that Office.
19. *John Hartley*, Stationer, to be the first Register. First Register.
20. Every Register, before he executes that Office, Register to be
sworn.
to take an Oath before Three or more of the Directors,
for the due Execution of the said Office.
21. A Sixth Part only of the 1st Year's 6*l.* Pay- A 6th Part of the
Contributions to
be divided the 1st
Year.
ments or Contributions, to be divided amongst the No-
minees of the Members dying that Year, to be com-
puted from the 25th of *March*, 1706, 4,000*l.* to be di-
vided the 2d Year, 6,000*l.* the 3d Year, 8,000*l.* the 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th
Year's Dividend.
4th Year, and 10,000*l.* the 5th Year, and every Year
after that 10,000*l.* or so much more as the General
Court shall think fit.
22. Or in case there be not full 2,000 Members, If not 2000 Mem-
bers, the Dividend
to be in Propor-
tion.
such Dividends to be in Proportion to each Year's Pay-
ments of the 6*l.* *per Ann.*
23. The Residue of the annual Payments and Stock The remaining
Stock to be im-
proved for the
Benefit of the
Members.
to be reserved and improved at Interest, and by grant-
ing Annuities to Members of the Corporation, only
for the Benefit of the Members of the Corporation,
according to their respective Interest.
24. The Directors, or any Seven or more of them, Seven Directors
to hold Courts,
empowered to assemble and hold Courts, for the ma-
naging the Affairs of the Corporation, in any conve-
nient Place within the Cities of *London* and *West-*
minster, as often as they think fit.
25. Such Court to be called a *COURT* of *DIREC-*
TORS.

and manage the
Affairs of the
Corporation.

26. The Directors at such Courts to manage the Affairs of the Corporation, according to the Powers in the Charter, and the Rules and By-Laws to be made and agreed upon at a General Court of the Corporation.

General Courts
not to consist of
less than twenty
Members.

27. The Directors, or the major Part of them, and so many of the Members as think fit, (not less than Twenty) are empowered to assemble in any Place convenient in *London* and *Westminster*, or the Suburbs thereof, from Time to Time, and shall be called a *General Court*.

To make By-
Laws.

The Majority of Members, assembled at a General Court, are empowered to make By-Laws and Ordinances for the good Government of the Corporation, and the Members thereof.

Reasonable Pen-
alties to be im-
posed.

And to impose reasonable Penalties on Offenders against, and Breakers of such By-Laws, Rules, &c.

And to alter or annul such By-Laws, as they see Cause.

By-Laws not to
be repugnant to
the Laws of the
Land.

Such By-Laws, Fines, &c. not to be repugnant to the Laws of the Land, or to the Prejudice of any other Corporation.

Directors when
to be chosen.

28. The Members assembled in a General Court, on the 25th of *March* yearly, or within Forty Days after, to choose new Directors, who are to continue for one Year, and till others are chosen and sworn.

Four or more of
the Directors to
be continued.

29. Four or more of the Directors who served the preceeding Year (if so many shall then inhabit within the Bills of Mortality) are to be continued in the said Office of Directors the succeeding Year to instruct the rest.

If a Director die,
the other Direc-
tors to choose a-
nother.

30. If any Director die within a Year after the Election, or act contrary to his Trust in that Office, (in the Judgment of a Majority of the Directors) or
refuse,

refuse, or neglect to act therein; or take the Oath of a Director; or in case of the Removal of any Director, or other Vacancy in that Office, the rest of the Directors shall choose and swear another in his Stead, or otherwise, as shall be determined in a General Court.

31. In all Meetings of the Court of Directors, or other Courts of the said *Amicable Society*, the Directors for the Time being, or the major Part of them when assembled, are empowered to choose one of the Directors then present, to be *Chairman* of the same Courts, who, in case of Equality of Votes, is to have the casting Voice.

Directors empowered to choose a Chairman, who shall have the casting vote.

32. No Member to have more than one Vote in the Choice of Directors.

One Member to have but one Vote.

33. New Directors, when chosen, to be sworn before Three or more of the former Directors.

Directors to take an Oath.

34. The Twelve Directors, or the major Part of them, are empowered to call and hold Courts, and therein to transact all Matters relating to the Society and their Stock.

Major Part of Directors to hold Courts,

To hear and determine Controversies relating thereto. And to approve or reject Members, as to them shall seem meet.

determine Controversies, approve or reject Members, choose and remove Officers.

And to choose or remove inferior Officers.

35. Members living in the Country are empowered to constitute Attornies, by writing under their Hand and Seal, to manage their Affairs in the Company, other than in the Choice of Directors.

Members may vote by Proxy, except in the Choice of Directors.

36. A Register Book or Books to be kept for registering and entering the Names, Titles, Ages, and Places of Abode of the Subscribers, and of the Nominees of such Members, and of the Sums of Money received and paid, and the Time when, and to whom paid.

Register Book to be kept,

To which Book or Books all Persons having any Interest

to be seen by any Person interested

in the Joint-
Stock, gratis.

Certificates of
Deaths.

Society may pur-
chase not ex-
ceeding 2,000l.
per Ann.

Any one may sell
Lands, &c. to the
Society.

Judges, Justices,
&c. to be assist-
ing.

Society empow-
ered to raise a
Joint-Stock.

Restrained from
Trading.

Offending,
forfeit the Char-
ter,

and to be sued by
the Attorney-
General.

terest in the Joint-Stock or Dividends, may have Re-
course, and inspect without Fee or Reward.

37. On the Death of each Member, an authentic
Certificate thereof to be produced to the Directors,
certifying the Place where and Time when such Mem-
ber died : Such Certificate to be filed by the Register,
&c. and at the End of every Year to be produced to
any Member (if required.)

38. Power is given to the Society to purchase, hold
and enjoy Lands, Tenements, &c. of 2,000l. *per Ann.*

39. And Licence is given to any Person or Persons,
to aliene Lands and Tenements of that Value to the
Company.

40. All Judges, Justices of the Peace, Mayors, She-
riffs, &c. and all other Officers whatsoever, to be aid-
ing and assisting to the Society and their Officers, in the
Execution of the QUEEN's Pleasure declared in
the Charter.

41. Power is given to the Society to raise a Joint-
Stock for the Purposes in the Charter mentioned, for
the Benefit of them and their Successors, according to
their respective Interests, and the same to augment or
diminish at Pleasure.

42. The Society is not to deal in Bills of Exchange,
&c. nor keep Cash of other Persons, nor use the Bank-
ing Trade, nor issue Bills, &c. nor lend Money, except
the real Produce of the Joint-Stock, nor deal in Bul-
lion or other Goods.

43. If the Society offends in the Matters aforesaid,

44. The Charter is to determine and become void.

45. If the Society offends to the Value of 500l.

or upwards in a Year, to be sued by the Attorney-
General, at the Request of the Bank.

46. The

46 The Directors, at the Time they take the Oath of Office, are to take an Oath for the due Observance of the Restrictions in the Charters.

Directors to take an Oath to observe the Restrictions of the Charter.

47. The Patent to be construed favourably for the Society.

ABSTRACT

A N
A B S T R A C T
O F T H E
S U P P L E M E N T A L C H A R T E R.

Dated 16 Jan. 3^o Georgii Regis, A. D. 1729.

No Member to
vote in General
Courts but such
as are real Con-
tributors on their
own Lives.
Any two Direc-
tors shall have
Power to admin-
ister an Oath,
&c.

The Tenor of the
Oath.

Any Person or
Persons refusing
to take such Oath
to be excluded
from balloting,
voting, or acting
at any General
Court.

THIS *Charter* (after a short Recital of the *Original Charter*) ordains, 1st, That no Member shall have any Right to vote, or act in any General Court, except only such as are real Contributors on his or her own Life. That any Two or more of the Directors shall have Power at any General Court to administer an Oath to any Member who pretends or insists to have a Vote or Ballot at any Election for Directors, or making of By-Laws, or any other Matter or Thing which shall concern the Corporation; which Oath shall be to the Effect following, viz. *That such Person or Persons is or are lawfully possessed of a Policy in the said Corporation, on his, her, or their own Life or Lives, and is, or are a Contributor or Contributors thereto, in his, or their own Right, and not otherwise.* In case of Refusal to take such Oath or Oaths, by any such Person or Persons, upon Tender thereof by any Two or more of the Directors, the aforesaid Person or Persons so refusing shall be excluded from balloting, voting or acting

at

at General Courts as a Member of the said Corporation.

2dly, That it shall and may be lawful for any Two or more of the Directors to administer Oaths to any Person or Persons as will voluntarily take the same concerning the State of Health of any Person that shall be proposed to be admitted [*a Member*] or relating to the Death of any Member, or in Relation to any Policy which shall be lost, and for which Application shall be made in Order to have a new Policy in Exchange for the same; and also to examine upon Oath the Auditors of the Accounts of the Society, if any such Person will voluntarily take such Oath.

Any two Directors may administer Oaths to any Person as will voluntarily take the same, as to the State of Health of any Person to be admitted, &c.

3dly, That no Monies of the Corporation shall at any Time be lent or placed out but on Land or Government Securities, except on Claims, before such Time as the same shall respectively become due, and that all Claims to be made out of the Monies appointed to be annually divided, shall from Time to Time be paid as of the current Year, wherein such Claims are made appear to be due, and be allowed of by the Directors, and not otherwise.

No Money to be lent on any other Security than Land or Government, except on Claims. And that all Claims shall be paid the current Year, &c.

4thly, And whereas by the *Original Charter*, all Members are to pay certain annual Sums by Quarterly Payments, without which the yearly Dividends to Claimants cannot be made, or the Corporation subsist, if the Contributors run in Arrear, without being subject to Forfeitures and Exclusion for such Default; it is ordained and directed, that all Members and their Nominees, who shall be in Arrear one Year and one Quarter of a Year, and their respective Executors, Administrators, and Assigns, shall be absolutely excluded from all Benefit and Advantage by Virtue of

Any Member being in Arrear one Year and one Quarter of a Year to be absolutely excluded.

Notice to be given in the Gazette of the Time in Arrear, &c.

any such Policy or Policies; Provided always, That no such Forfeiture shall be incurred, unless Notice shall be first given in the *Gazette* of the Sum so in Arrear; and that if the same shall not be paid within Three Calendar Months after such Publication, such Forfeiture will be incurred; nor unless Default be made in the Payment thereof before the End of the said Three Months.

BY-LAWS

B Y - L A W S
O F T H E
C O R P O R A T I O N
O F T H E
A M I C A B L E S O C I E T Y
F o r a P E R P E T U A L
A S S U R A N C E - O F F I C E .

Read and approved of at Two successive General Courts of the said CORPORATION, and confirmed the 19th Day of January 1737, with the subsequent Alterations.

I. **T**HAT no Person be admitted a Member of this Corporation, who is under the Age of Members Ages limited, Twelve Years, or above Forty-five; except in the Exchange of Policies, as in the Ninth By-Law is herein after mentioned. And that no Person whatsoever be admitted a Member of this Corporation without the Approbation and Consent of at least None to be admitted without Consent of Seven Directors. Seven of the Directors in their Court assembled.

II. That no Person be admitted a Member of this Corporation, who shall live in *London*, or within Fifteen Miles thereof, that doth not appear in Person before the Court of Directors, and there voluntarily Persons living in London, or within 15 Miles, must appear in Person, and take an Oath, make

make Oath, *That he, or she is in a good State of Health, and hath no Distemper, which, according to the best of his or her Knowledge, Judgment, or Belief, may tend to the shortening of his or her Days:* Except in the Case where a List, containing not less than Seven Housekeepers, living

or, deliver in a List of Seven,

or, leave it to the Directors to nominate a proper Person,

near each other, or other noted Persons living within the Bills of Mortality, shall be proposed to the Court of Directors for their Choice of one: Except also, where it shall be left to the Court of Directors themselves to nominate a proper Person.

Those who live above 15 Miles from London may be admitted by Certificates and an

Affidavit.

III. That Persons living above Fifteen Miles from London (and not appearing in Person before the Court of Directors) may be admitted Members of this Corporation by Certificates under the Hands of the Minister and Church-wardens, or Church-warden of the Parish wherein such Persons live, and of a Minister of an adjoining Parish, inserting therein the good State of Health, Age, and Title or Profession of the Parties proposed; together with an Affidavit of the Person to be admitted, to the same Effect; and also that he or she hath been in a good State of Health for six Months then past. And if it shall happen that the Person so proposed shall be Minister or Church-warden of the Parish in which he lives, or shall live in any Extraparochial Precinct or Place, then, and in such Case, he may be admitted by Certificate under the Hand of the Minister and Church-wardens of two adjoining Parishes; together with an Affidavit by the Person proposed to the same Effect as required above.

Members to pay xl. 11s. quarterly for each Number

IV. That every Member or Contributor shall pay One Pound Eleven Shillings for each Number quarterly, on the four most usual Quarter-Days; and such as shall make Default in Payment of his or her quarterly Payments within Thirty Days after each Quarter

ter-Day shall (for each Number) forfeit to the Joint-Stock, for the first Quarter's Neglect One Shilling; for two successive Quarters Three Shillings; for three successive Quarters Five Shillings; for Four successive Quarters Eight Shillings; and for Five successive Quarters Twelve Shillings: And that no Quarterages shall at any Time hereafter be received, without Payment at the same Time of all Forfeitures that shall hereafter become due, at the Time of Payment of such Quarterages: And that the Register for the Time being, do upon the first *Gazette Day* after *Lady-Day* in every Year, or as soon after as may be, and within Forty Days after every other usual Quarter-Day in every Year publish in the *London Gazette* an Account of such Numbers as shall be then in Arrear one Year, and one Quarter of a Year, in order for Exclusion at the Expiration of three Months then next ensuing, pursuant to the Supplemental Charter. And that the Directors for the Time being, do not declare the annual Dividends payable to the Claimants of this Corporation upon the Deaths of their respective Members, until the Expiration of the said three Months Notice, so to be given, (as aforesaid) after every *Lady-Day* in every Year; but that they do, as soon as conveniently they can, after the Expiration of the said three Months Notice after *Lady-Day*, as aforesaid, annually declare the said Dividends on such Numbers as shall then remain subsisting, and appoint Times for Payment of Claims.

Forfeitures incurred on Non-Payment thereof, within 30 Days after each Quarter Day.

Numbers of Policies; Quarters in Arrear to be published in the *London Gazette*, in order for Exclusion at the Expiration of 3 Months then next.

Directors not to declare annual Dividends to Claimants before the Expiration of the said 3 Months,

but as soon after as conveniently they can.

V. Repealed the 10th Day of *May* 1770.

Proofs of Deaths by Affidavit and Certificate.

VI. That an Affidavit of the Claimant (or some other reputable Person) of every Member's Death, and also a Certificate under the Hands of the Rector, Vicar, or Curate (or Person officiating as such) and Parish Clerk, if any, (or Person officiating as such (of the

Pa-

Method and Order of Dividends on Deaths.

Parish where such Member is buried, be produced to the Court of Directors within three Kalendar Months (at farthest) after *Old Lady-Day* in every Year, as Proof of such Member's Death; and that every Claimant refusing or neglecting to produce and lay before the Court of Directors such Affidavit and Certificate within the Time aforesaid, and the Claim shall by Reason or Means thereof be postponed to the succeeding Year, unless such Claimant will make a voluntary Oath, *That it was not in his, or her Power to produce the same within the Time aforesaid*, shall be intitled (in all Events) to no larger or greater Sum out of the current Year's Dividend, wherein such Affidavit and Certificate shall be produced, than would have been either his or her Share or Dividend for the Year wherein such Member died, but if the Dividend for the current Year shall be less than the Dividend for the Year wherein such Member died, then such Claimant shall be intitled only to an equal Proportion with the Claimants in the current Year. But in case (by some unforeseen Accident, or by the wilful Default or Neglect of the Person to whom the Claim shall be due) it shall happen that a Certificate of Burial, and an Affidavit of the Death of any Member cannot or shall not be delivered to the Court of Directors within three Kalendar Months after every *Old Lady-Day*; and it be notoriously known, or be otherwise made appear to the Satisfaction of the Court of Directors) that such Member is actually dead, such Claim shall not be postponed to the succeeding Year, but be deemed a Claim for the Year wherein such Member died; and the Money arising from such Claim shall be detained by this Corporation until the Proofs be produced as aforesaid. Provided that Notice of such Death be produced and laid before the Court of Directors, (and be by them approved

proved of as satisfactory) within Three Kalendar Months after every *Old Lady Day* as aforesaid, and not otherwise. And that the Register for the Time being, do upon the first *Gazette Day* after *Old Lady Day* in every Year, or as soon after as may be, and within Forty Days after every other Quarter Day (O. S.) in every Year, publish in the *London Gazette*, an Account of such Numbers as shall be then in Arrear one Year and one Quarter of a Year, in order for Exclusion at the Expiration of Three Months then next ensuing, (pursuant to the Supplemental Charter.) And that the Directors for the Time being, do not declare the annual Dividends payable to the Claimants of this Corporation upon the Deaths of their respective Members, until the Expiration of the said Three Months Notice so to be given, (as aforesaid) after *Old Lady Day* in every Year, but that they do as soon as conveniently they can after the Expiration of the said Three Months Notice after *Lady Day*, as aforesaid, annually declare the said Dividends on such Numbers as shall then remain subsisting, and upon such Deaths as shall have been by them allowed and approved of as aforesaid, and appoint Times for Payment of Claims accordingly.

Register on the first *Gazette-day* after *Lady-day*, and within 40 Days after every other Quarter-day, to publish Numbers & Quarters in Arrear,

for Exclusion at the End of 3 Months.

Directors not to declare the Dividend, 'till the Expiration of such 3 Months,

VII. That in Case of a Claim coming due to Infants, their Guardian or Guardians, or such other sufficient Person or Persons as the Directors for the Time being shall approve, shall execute a Bond to this Corporation, in the Sum of 200*l.* at least, for each Number, conditioned to indemnify this Corporation from any Demand of such Infant or Infants, his, her or their Executors or Administrators, or any other Person or Persons whatsoever. And that every Person claiming upon the Death of any Member dying out of that Part of *Great Britain* called *England*, do

Where Infants are intitled to Claims, their Guardians to give Security,

As also Claimants upon Members dying out of England,

give sufficient Security to this Corporation, in the Penalty of 200*l.* at least, for each Number, (to be approved by the Court of Directors) to indemnify this Corporation.

Two or three Numbers on one Life in one two or three Policies,

Contributors for two or three Numbers subject to all Payments as if so many Policies, and be intitled to as many Claims as there are Numbers.

Double or triple Policies may be exchanged for single ones, et c contra.

Contributor may exchange the Life.

VIII. That any Person or Persons be permitted to have two or three Numbers on one and the same Life, and at one and the same Time, either in one Policy, or in Two or Three separate Policies, as they shall think fit, agreeably to the first, second, third, and ninth By-Laws. And that such Contributors who shall have two or three Numbers in one Policy, shall be subject to the Payments, Forfeitures, Exclusions, and all other Regulations for each Number as if so many separate Policies had been granted; and that then and in such Case they shall be intitled to as many Claims as there shall be Numbers contained therein; and that Contributors already possessed, or that hereafter shall be possessed of double or triple Policies, may exchange them for single Policies; and on the contrary, single Policies for double or triple: Provided that no Exchange whatever be made for, or in respect of any Deduction, or Credit, Policy or Policies, without a previous Payment of the whole Principal and Interest Money, which at the Time of such Exchange shall be due or chargeable upon such Policy or Policies respectively.

IX. That any Contributor to this Corporation, desiring to exchange the Life of his or her Member, may (upon delivering up the Policy thereon to be cancelled) have a new one granted upon the Life of another Person, (agreeably to the Terms of the first, second, and third By-Laws :) But if in Case the Person proposed in Exchange shall be above the Age of 45 Years, that then

then such Person so to be admitted, shall be younger than the Member to be exchanged.

X. That in Case any Policy be lost or mislaid, and the Member be living, a new one be granted by the Court of Directors; but if the Member be dead, the Claim shall be paid; so that in each Case, Oath of Loss and Property of such Policy be first made, and Security in the Penalty of 200*l.* at least, for each Number be given, to indemnify this Corporation against any Damage that may happen thereby.

Lost Policies.

XI. That no excluded Policies, or dormant Numbers, be disposed of, or filled up for the Benefit of this Corporation, but by the Consent and Approbation of two successive General Courts.

Excluded Policies, and dormant Numbers.

XII. That a Register be kept of all Purchases made by this Corporation, and of all their Securities for Money lent; and that the same be lodged in the Office for the Perusal of the Members and Contributors.

Register of Purchases, and Securities.

XIII. That a Register Book for the registering Assignments of Policies of this Corporation, be provided at the Expence of the Register; and that all Policies of this Corporation, which shall be assigned by any Member or Members, Nominee or Nominees of this Corporation, shall therein be fairly entered and registered; for the Entry whereof shall be paid for each Number One Shilling to the Register: And that if such Assignment is not duly entered into the said Register Book within six Kalendar Months after such Assignment made, that then out of the Claim on each Number so assigned, when the Claims shall happen, shall be deducted for the Use and Benefit of this Corporation the Sum of Five Pounds, which shall be added to the Stock of this Corporation.

Register of Assignments of Policies.

If Assignment is not Registered within 6 Months after making a Penalty of 5*l.*

Joint-Stock not
to be divided
without Consent
of two General
Courts, except
the Dividend on
Claims.

XIV. That no Part of the Joint-Stock of this Corporation be divided without the Consent and Approbation of two successive General Courts ; except the annual Dividend on Claims, in Pursuance of the Original Charter ; and except such additional Dividends as shall be made for augmenting the Claims, whenever the Quantum thereof shall happen to be under 150 *l.* pursuant to the Resolution of a General Court, held the 10th of *May*, 1776.

Dividend of Pro-
fits.

XV. That no more than Twenty-four Shillings *per Annum* be paid to each Contributor or Member on each Number, out of the Profits of this Corporation.

Four General
Courts in each
Year at least ;
Three Days No-
tice of them to
Members, in
the Bills of Mor-
tality ; and to be
advertised six
Days before the
Court.

XVI. That four General Courts at least, shall be held every Year, within Forty Days after each Quarter-Day ; and that three Days Notice in Writing be given of the holding of every such, or any other General Court, at the House of every Member, being a Contributor on his or her own Life, that shall be publickly known to live within the Bills of Mortality ; and also in the *London Gazette*, at least six Days before any Quarterly or other General Court be held.

Ballot at General
Court.

XVII. That upon a Motion made and seconded at any General Court for a Ballot, the same shall be granted, and the Names of the Persons who are qualified to vote, shall be taken down in Writing before they shall be permitted to put in their Ballot.

Voting by Attor-
neys at General
Courts regulated

XVIII. That no Writing, constituting an Attorney to vote at any General Court, shall be allowed, unless the same be entered in the Office of this Corporation, at least three Days before such General Court ; and unless the Member constituting such Attorney, shall annex to such Writing a voluntary Affidavit, *that he or she is lawfully possessed of a Policy in the Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office, on his, or her*

her own Life, and is a Contributor thereto, in his or her own Right; and that he or she hath not sold or contracted for, and will not sell, or contract for, or otherwise dispose of his, or her said Policy, or his or her Interest therein, 'till after the then next General Court of the said Corporation; which Writing shall continue in Force for the next General Court after the Date thereof, and no longer.

XIX. That no Chairman of a General Court of this Corporation shall adjourn the Court, or leave the Chair, without the Question being first put and carried for that Purpose: And if any Chairman of a General Court shall act contrary hereto, he shall forfeit his Office of Director, and be disqualified for ever after to be chosen a Director or Auditor of this Corporation, and a new Chairman shall be immediately elected in his Room by the Rest of the Directors.

Adjournment of General Courts regulated.

XX. That upon every General Court Day, the Messenger of this Corporation shall attend at the Door of such Place where the said Court shall be held, from the Time of opening the same, 'till the said Court shall be adjourned: And shall take effectual Care that no Person be suffered to come into the said Court, who has not a Power to vote in this Corporation.

Intruders at General Courts to be prevented.

XXI. That all Elections of Directors be by Way of Balloting: And that before any Member be permitted to put in his Ballot, he or she do take the following Oath, viz. *I A. B. do swear, that I am lawfully possessed of a Policy in the Corporation of the Amicable Society for a Perpetual Assurance-Office on my own Life, and that I am a Contributor thereto in my own Right, SO HELP ME GOD.* And that no Person be chosen a Director for more than Three Years successively. And that the Register for the Time being, or any Person

Election of Directors to be by Ballot.

Oath to be taken on Balloting.

Register not to intermeddle.

son employed under him, shall not intermeddle with the Election of Directors, otherwise than in giving their own Votes, on Pain of being immediately discharged.

Method of Balloting.

XXII. That at the annual Election of Directors (which shall always be by Balloting) each Member qualified to vote, may in Person deliver in a List of Twelve Members (duly qualified) to be Directors for the Year ensuing; of which Four, (or more, not exceeding Eight) shall be of the Directors for the preceding Year: And all Lists which shall not have Twelve duly qualified Members, and Four of them (at the least) of the Directors for the preceding Year, shall be rejected.

Directors to take in the Cash from the Register.

XXIII. That the Directors for the Time being, do from Time to Time, at each of their Courts, take in the Cash and Securities of this Corporation, that shall be received by the Register, Receiver or Accomptant of this Corporation, and lock the same up in this Corporation's Iron Chest, or order the same to be laid out for the Benefit of this Corporation; save only so much of the said Cash, as they shall think proper from Time to Time to leave in the Hands of the said Register, Receiver, or Accomptant, to answer and pay the necessary Disbursements of this Corporation, as shall from Time to Time be ordered by the Court of Directors for the Time being, not exceeding 500l. at any one Time; and that the Directors do not lock up in the Chest any Notes, but Bank or Exchequer Bills.

Committees of Directors, for the Keys;

XXIV. That the Directors for the Time being, or the major Part of them assembled, at each of their Courts, shall from Time to Time appoint a Committee of three of their own Body, with each of whom a Key of the Iron Chest shall be lodged, until the

the then next Court of Directors; That a like Committee be appointed to attend at the Office of this Corporation, at least Two several Days between the Twentieth and Thirty-second Days after each Quarter-Day, to take in such Cash as shall then be received by the Register, Receiver, or Accomptant, and lock the same up in the said Chest: And also from the Time the Claims shall be appointed to be paid, a like Committee shall attend at the Office of this Corporation twice a Week (at least) during the Space of one Month, for Payment of the same; of which their Days and Times of Attendance, Notice in Writing shall be publickly affixed by the Register at the Door of the said Office.

to take in Cash from the Register;

and to pay Claims.

XXV. That all successive Directors of this Corporation shall, within one Month after they shall be sworn into that Office, enquire into the State and Condition of the Security of the Register, Receiver, or Accomptant of this Corporation, and enter in the Minutes of their Court, how they find the same to be: And that this By-Law be read at every General Court of this Corporation whereat Directors are to be elected.

Directors annually to inspect the Security of the Register,

XXVI. That the Directors do take Care to deliver over to the succeeding Directors the Auditor's Accounts, together with the Cash and Securities of this Corporation, immediately after their being sworn in.

and deliver over to the succeeding Directors, Auditor's Accounts, &c.

XXVII. That the Seal of this Corporation be not affixed to any Instrument whatsoever, until the same be read and approved at two successive Courts of Directors, nor without the Consent of Seven Directors specified under their Hands; Policies and Powers of Attorney for receiving Money, or for accepting, or transferring Government Stock or Securities, or for voting at the General Court of any Company, only excepted;

Seal of Corporation, not to be put to any Instrument, until it has been twice read: (Policies and Powers of Attorney excepted; which must be signed by seven Directors.)

excepted: And that all such Policies and Powers of Attorney, shall be signed by at least Seven of the Directors in their Court assembled.

Five Auditors to be chosen by Ballot at the Court, next after that, where the Directors are chosen.

XXVIII. That Five Members of this Society, Contributors on their own Lives, be annually chosen Auditors of this Society by Balloting, at the General Quarterly Court next after that, at which the Directors are chosen: And that no more than four of the Auditors of the preceding Year shall be chosen for the Year ensuing. And that in case of a Vacancy in the Office of Auditor, by Death or otherwise, then another Member shall be chosen Auditor in his Room by the Directors for the Time being.

In Case of Vacancy another to be chosen by the Directors.

The Auditors to lay before the General Courts Quarterly and Yearly Accounts

XXIX. That the Auditors for the Time being, do lay before every General Quarterly Court next after *Midsummer*, *Michaelmas*, and *Christmas*, in every Year, the Quarterly current Accounts of this Corporation; and do likewise lay before the General Court next after *Lady-Day* in every Year, an Account of all the Receipts and Payments of this Corporation for the preceding Year; and also an Account of the Stocks and Securities thereof in the most distinct Manner, for which End they shall inspect the Society's Books, and may inspect the Securities and Cash of this Corporation upon any Court Day, and make their Report from such Inspections, and not by Information; and every Auditor who shall refuse voluntarily to make Oath of the Truth of such Accounts shall for ever after be disqualified to be elected into, hold, or execute the Office of an Auditor of this Corporation.

and have a Liberty of inspecting Securities and Cash upon a Court Day.

Auditor refusing to make Oath of the Truth of such Accounts disqualified to be an Auditor.

Directors to issue Receipts by Tale, Auditors to balance them and the Cash.

XXX. That the Directors do deliver out printed Receipts at their Courts to the Register, Receiver, or Accomptant, by Tale; and that upon the Day preceding the Meeting of every Court of Directors, the Auditors,

Auditors do state and sign in the Minute-Book of the Court of Directors a Balance of such Receipts, and of the Cash in the Chest, as expressed in the Minute-Book of the Directors; and also the Cash in the Hands of the said Register, Receiver, or Accomptant, as expressed in the Cash-Book of this Society.

XXXI. That the Directors for the Time being shall not admit any Person into the Office of Register, Receiver, or Accomptant of this Corporation, but who shall give good Security for the Sum of Two Thousand Pounds at least, to the Satisfaction of the Court of Directors; and that such Register, Receiver, or Accomptant, before he shall enter on the said Office, shall before the Directors, or the major Part of them, at their Court, take and subscribe the following Oath, *viz.* *I A. B. do swear, That I will not knowingly make, or to my Knowledge, or Power, permit or suffer to be made, any false Entry or Entries in any of the Book or Books of this Corporation, but will duly enter, or cause to be entered, all Money received and paid by me, or any other Person by my Order, or with my Privy, for the Use of this Society, and will not conceal the same, or any Part thereof, from the Directors or Auditors; and that I will faithfully and truly execute the Office of Register, Receiver, or Accomptant to this Society, to the best of my Power, SO HELP ME GOD.*

Register to give
good Security for
2000l.

Oath of Register.

XXXII. That if any Officer, or other Person whatsoever, intrusted with the Cash or Securities of this Corporation, shall for the future embezzle or misapply the said Cash or Securities, then such Officer, or other Person intrusted, shall be forthwith prosecuted at Law by the Court of Directors for the Time being; and that neither the said Persons nor their Sureties, shall ever be compound-

Embezzlers of
Cash to be prosecuted and not to
be compounded with, without
Consent of a General Court.

ed with, or a less Sum accepted than the whole Debt, without the Consent of a General Court.

Directors disqualified on the Register's embezzling more than he gives Security for.

under certain Provisions.

XXXIII. That if any Loss shall happen to this Corporation by Embezzlement or Misapplication of its Cash by the Register, Receiver, or Accomptant, exceeding the Sum for which Security shall be taken from him pursuant to the Thirtieth By-Law; that then, and in such Case the Directors, through whose Neglect or Default such Loss shall happen, shall for ever after be disabled from being elected into, holding or exercising any Office whatsoever in this Corporation; Provided that it shall appear by the Report of the Auditors to be entered in the Minute-Book of the Court of Directors in Pursuance of the Thirtieth By-Law, that the Sum or Sums which shall be so embezzled or misapplied by such Officer, was or were in his Hands at the Time for holding a Court of Directors next after such Report: Provided also, That the same shall be suffered to remain in the said Officer's Hands for the Space of Fifteen Days after such Court without a Demand thereof.

List of Members to be made out annually by the Register,

examined by the Auditors, and certified to the Directors.

XXXIV. That the Register for the Time being, at least one Month before *Lady-Day* in every Year, shall make out an Alphabetical List of all the Members of this Corporation contributing on their own Lives, in the best and most exact Manner that may be, from the Books and Entries of this Corporation and within the same Time lay such List before the Auditors for the Time being; and that the said Auditors, within fourteen Days after the Receipt thereof, shall carefully examine and compare the same with the Books and Entries of this Corporation, and certify to the Court of Directors that they have so done, and that the same appears to them to be a true and exact List of the Members

Members of this Corporation contributing on their own Lives : And that the Directors for the Time being, shall thereupon order the said List to be forthwith printed, with the Twenty-first and Twenty-second By-Laws at the End thereof, and left at the Office, ready to be distributed to the Members of this Corporation, for their Directions and Government in Elections and other Affairs relating to this Corporation.

The List to be printed with the 21st and 22d By-Laws, and distributed to the Members.

XXXV. That every Person who shall hereafter borrow Money of this Corporation on the Credit of his, her, or their Claims, shall give Bond to be answerable for the same with lawful Interest until the first Day that shall be appointed for the Payment of Claims.

Money borrowed on Claims to be secured by Bond.

XXXIV. That from and immediately after *Lady-Day* next, all By-Laws of this Corporation heretofore made (except what relates to Payments of Forfeitures already due and incurred) be repealed and annulled; and that then, and from thenceforth, the foregoing By-Laws be in Force, and be the By-Laws of this Corporation : And that no Order or Resolution whatsoever shall hereafter be, or be deemed to be a By-Law and Ordinance of this Corporation, until the same shall be approved of by a Majority of the Members present at Two several successive Quarterly or other General Courts to be appointed for that Purpose.

Former By-Laws abrogated.

No Order or Resolution to be deemed a By-Law, until approved by a Majority at 2 Quarterly or other General Courts.

RESOLUTION

OF THE

GENERAL COURT,

REFERRED TO

IN THE XIVth BY-LAW.

*At a General Quarterly Court held the 10th of May, 1770,
and confirmed the 9th of August following,*

Resolved unanimously, and Ordered,

THAT the Claims upon this Society, arising by Deaths, which have happened, or may happen from and after the 5th Day of April last, being *Lady-Day*, 1770, (Old Stile) be augmented to the Sum of One Hundred and Fifty Pounds each, (whenever they shall fall short of that Sum, under the Dividend directed by the Charter of Incorporation of this Society;) and that the Four Thousand Pounds *Consolidated Bank Annuities*, and the Eleven Thousand Pounds *Reduced Bank Annuities*, now standing in the Name of this Society, in the Books of the *Bank of England*, be appropriated and set apart, as a Fund for that Purpose, and together with the Cash now in the Hands of this Society, and all future annual Savings, be made Use of from Time to Time by the Court of Directors, for augmenting such Claims to One Hundred
and

and Fifty Pounds, whenever it shall be necessary in Manner aforesaid. And that the Fourteen Thousand and Three Hundred Pounds *New South Sea Annuities*, and Four Thousand Pounds *Old Sea Annuities*, now standing in the Name of this Society, in the Books of the *South Sea Company*, shall not at any Time be transferred, or disposed of, without the express Order, Consent and Direction, of Two successive General Courts. And in Consideration hereof, That the blank Number of every Member, shall upon the 6th Day of *April*, next following, the Decease of such Member, sink into, and become the Property of this Society, without any other or farther Consideration for the same.

and they found, wherever it first appeared in
the country, that it was the result of a
contagious disease. The first case was
found in the town of New York, and
it was found that the disease was
spread by the contact of the diseased
with the healthy. The disease was
found to be contagious, and it was
found that the disease was spread by
the contact of the diseased with the
healthy. The disease was found to be
contagious, and it was found that the
disease was spread by the contact of
the diseased with the healthy.

65 of 15

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